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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/351,399	07/13/1999	AKIRA OGINO	09812.0492-00000	9658

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EXAMINER

REAGAN, JAMES A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3621

DATE MAILED: 02/14/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/351,399

Applicant(s)

OGINO ET AL.

Examiner

James A. Reagan

Art Unit

3621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 November 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 13-15, 20-24, 32-36, 44-46 and 51-55 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 13-15, 20-24, 32-36, 44-46 and 51-55 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Status of Claims

1. This action is in response to the remand from the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences received on 10 November 2005.
2. Prosecution is hereby reopened.
3. Claims 1-5, 13-15, 20-24, 32-36, 44-46, and 51-55 are pending and have been examined.
4. The rejections of claims 1-5, 13-15, 20-24, 32-36, 44-46, and 51-55 have been changed as shown below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1-5, 13-15, 20-24, 32-36, 44-46, and 51-55 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 10-65662 (JP '662 hereinafter) in view of Schneck et al. (Schneck hereinafter: US PAT. 6,314,409 B2) and Ryan et al. (Ryan hereinafter: US PAT. 6,374,036 B1), and further in view of Downs et al. (US 6,226,618 B1).

Claims 1, 13, and 20:

JP '662 discloses an information signal playback system having all of the features claimed except for the explicit disclosure of (a) the output means for supplying the information on copyright protection encrypted by the encryption means and the unencrypted information on copyright protection and the main information signal on which copy control information is embodied to the information signal processing apparatus and (b) a watermark detecting means: see an attached figure. However, Schneck discloses the output means for supplying the information on copyright protection encrypted by the encryption means and the unencrypted information on copyright protection and the main information signal on which copy control information is embodied to the information signal processing apparatus and copy control information for a system to control access and distribution of digital property (e.g., Abstract; col. 7, lines 22-50; col. 10, lines 47-65; col. 13, lines 58-62; col. 23, lines 25-27). Further, Ryan discloses the use of watermark for controlling copy of a digital video signal. In column 3, lines 23-35, Ryan discloses comparing values from the watermark to ensure that only authorized use of the digitized work is allowed. Although Ryan does not specifically disclose that encrypted and unencrypted information are compared, the feature of comparing attributes to known standards is a variation of comparing bits and data streams that one of ordinary skill in the art would recognize as a viable and straightforward means of detecting fraudulent conduct. Thus, it would have been within the level of ordinary skill in the art to modify the system of JP '662 by adopting the teachings of Schneck and Ryan to enhance the functions of the claimed system by providing additional copy protection features.

Downs, in at least column 15, line 58 to column 16, line 50, discloses the encryption/decryption process using symmetric keys and hashing algorithms to produce and compare a string of resultant characters (HASH) before and after transmission of the digital file to ensure that the file was not tampered with enroute to its destination, exactly and clearly disclosing Appellant's limitation of *comparing means for comparing the decrypted information on said copyright protection with the unencrypted information on said copyright protection to judge if an*

Art Unit: 3621

attempt to alter the information on said copyright protection has been performed. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the system of JP `662/Schneck/Ryan with the hashing technique of Downs because this would provide an additional layer of protection during transmission of digital files.

Claims 32, 44, and 51:

None of JP `662, Schneck, Ryan and Downs explicitly discloses the claimed methods. However, it would have been obvious to operate the system, which would have been obvious as stated supra.

Claims 2,14, 21, 33, 45, and 52:

Both Schneck (e.g., col. 18, lines 11-17) and Ryan (e.g., col. 2, lines 30-35) disclose that the information on copyright protection is media-type information indicating the type of the recording medium. Thus, it would have been within the level of ordinary skill in the art to modify the apparatus and method of JP `662 by adopting the teachings of Schneck and Ryan to provide better control of reproduction of the information to the claimed apparatus and method.

Claims 3, 15, 22, 34, 46, and 53:

JP `662 does not explicitly disclose the use of CSS system. However, CSS system is one of old and well-known recording and reproducing system and nothing unobvious is seen to have been involved simply having employed this well known system for an information signal playback system of the sort here involved.

Claims 4, 5, 23, 24, 35, 36, 54, and 55:

None of JP `662, Schneck, Ryan and Downs explicitly discloses the use of additional information (additional digital watermark information). However, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to any desirable number of

Art Unit: 3621

digital watermark information, since it has been held that mere duplication of the essential working parts of a device involves only routine skill in the art. *St. Regis Paper Co. v. Bemis Co.*, 193 USPQ 8.

With regard to the limitation of never-copy or copy once implementations, Ryan discloses using a watermark to enable copy once or never copy permissions for a digital work (abstract and related text). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the copy permissions of Ryan because providing a means for controlling the unauthorized distribution of digital works, "...offers improved security and economics" (Ryan, column 2, lines 30-32).

Art Unit: 3621

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to **James A. Reagan** whose telephone number is **571.272.6710**. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 9:30am-5:00pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, **James Trammell** can be reached at **571.272.6712**.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://portal.uspto.gov/external/portal/pair> . Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at **866.217.9197** (toll-free).

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

571-273-8300 [Official communications, After Final communications labeled "Box AF"]

571-273-8300 [Informal/Draft communications, labeled "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT"]

Hand delivered responses should be brought to the **United States Patent and Trademark Office Customer Service Window**:

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401 Dulany Street

Alexandria, VA 22314.

JAMES A. REAGAN

Primary Examiner

Art Unit 3621

06 February 2006

